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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/716,256

11/18/2003

Goro Komatsu

YYC-100-A

6500

21828

7590

02/22/2005

CARRIER BLACKMAN AND ASSOCIATES  
24101 NOVI ROAD  
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NOVI, MI 48375

EXAMINER

ALLEN, ANDRE J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2855

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/716,256

Applicant(s)

KOMATSU ET AL.

Examiner

Andre J. Allen

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2855

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11-18-03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,5~~6~~, and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Handfield (US 5741966).

Regarding claims 1,5,6,and 10-12 Handfield et al teaches a first temperature sensor, installed at least one of the tires (col. 4 line 19), that detects internal temperature of the tire (col. 4 line 21) a second temperature sensor (col. 4 line 23), installed at the vehicle, that detects ambient temperature (col. 4 line 25) at a place where the vehicle locates and a difference between the detected tire internal temperature and ambient temperature (col. 7 lines 45-51) and value correcting means/microcomputer for correcting the predetermined value when the tire pressure is to be adjusted based on a difference between the detected tire internal temperature and ambient temperature (col. 6 lines 56-63)

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

Claims 2,3,7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Handfield et al. (US 5741966) in view of Brown et al (US 20040017289).

Regarding claims 2,3,7 and 8 Handfield et al in teaches obtaining an reference temperature and a differential between temperature readings but does not explicitly teach value correcting means that corrects the predetermined value such that the predetermined value is increased with increasing difference between the detected temperatures when one rises above another (ambient and internal). Brown et al teaches value correcting means that corrects the predetermined value such that the predetermined value is increased with increasing difference between the detected temperatures when one rises above

another (ambient and internal) (pg. 4 eq. 5 and 6), it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art of processing tire monitoring conditions at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Handfield et al with value correcting means that corrects the predetermined value such that the predetermined value is increased with increasing difference between the detected temperatures when one rises above another (ambient and internal) as taught by Brown et al for the purpose of processing tire information in an accurate and timely manner while minimizing the occurrence of false alerts.

Regarding claims 4 and 9 Handfield et al does not teach the predetermined value is set based on a recommended cold pressure. Brown et al teaches a predetermined value is set based on a recommended cold pressure [0083]. It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the deficiencies of Handfield et al with the teachings of Brown et al for the purpose of deriving a model that provides a leak detection warning.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andre J. Allen whose telephone number is 571-272-2174. The examiner can normally be reached on mon-fri 8:00-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz can be reached on 571-272-2180. The

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fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

André Allen  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2855



**MICHAEL CYGAN, PH.D.**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**